

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 10, 12-15 and 17-23 are currently pending in this case, claims 8-9, 11 and 16 having been canceled without prejudice by this paper.

The Office Action objects to the specification because of minor informalities. The Applicants have amended the specification to correct these informalities.

The rejection of claims 1 and 20 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,555,845 (Flynn), claims 1-3 and 10 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,499,473 (Ramberg), claims 1-3, 6-7, 12 and 21-22 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,332,554 (McCarthy), claims 1-2, 12-13 and 23 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,028,267 (Byrne), and claims 1-2, 5 and 19 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. section 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,575,904 (Nagai) and the Applicants' traversal thereof

The Office Action rejects independent claims 1, 19-21 and 23 as being anticipated by one or more of the Flynn, Ramberg, McCarthy, Byrne and Nagai patents. The Flynn patent describes "a container and method of transport for transporting lobster and like live cargo." (Flynn, Abstract). The Ramberg patent describes "[a] container for storing live bait." (Ramberg, Abstract). The McCarthy patent describes "a storage box particularly useful for outdoor storage of heavy and awkward to handle outdoor equipment such as lawnmowers and snowblowers as well as other implements such as gardening tools, snow shovels and other items." (McCarthy, col. 1, lines 4-8). The Byrne patent describes a rotatable power center system that "provides for readily accessible access, at a work surface level, to electrical power, data ports and other types of desired electrical and/or communication input/output." (Byrne, col. 6,

specification (e.g., wafer fabrication equipment). Further, the Applicants respectfully submit that there is no suggestion in the Flynn or Ramberg patents, either alone or in combination, to modify the containers of the Flynn or Ramberg patents to include "a mechanism for mounting the box to a support pedestal of a semiconductor fabrication facility," as required by claim 1 and claims 2-4, 7, 10 and 12, which depend therefrom. The only such suggestion appears to be Applicants' specification (e.g., impermissible hindsight reconstruction). Consequently, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4, 7, 10 and 12 are allowable.

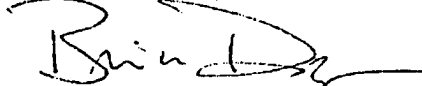
The Office Action rejects claims 14 and 17 under section 103 as being unpatentable over Ramberg in view of Niwa. The Niwa reference appears to describe a unit for elevating a box of Pachinko balls. (Niwa, Constitution). Such references appear to be non-analogous art (and/or unusable within a semiconductor fabrication facility) as Ramberg relates to storing live bait and Niwa relates to carrying Pachinko balls. Further, the Applicants respectfully submit that there is no suggestion in the Ramberg patent or Niwa reference, either alone or in combination, to modify the container of the Ramberg patent to include "a mechanism for mounting the box to a support pedestal of a semiconductor fabrication facility," as required by claim 1 (from which claim 14 depends) and claim 17. Consequently, claims 14 and 17 are submitted as being allowable.

The Office Action rejects claims 15 and 18 under section 103 as being unpatentable over McCarthy in view of Vartdal. The Vartdal patent describes "a fishing tackle box includ[ing] a lower box section and an upper box section." (Vartdal, Abstract). The Vartdal patent appears to be non-analogous art at least since a fishing tackle box is entirely unrelated to (and/or unusable within) the field of the Applicants' specification (e.g., wafer fabrication equipment), as

is the McCarthy reference which relates to a storage box for heavy and awkward outdoor equipment. Further, the Applicants respectfully submit that there is no suggestion in the McCarthy and Vartdal patents, either alone or in combination, to modify the storage box of the McCarthy patent to include "a mechanism for mounting the box to a support pedestal of a semiconductor fabrication facility," as required by claim 1 (from which claim 15 depends) and claim 18. Consequently, claims 15 and 18 are submitted as being allowable.

The Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the same. The Applicants do not believe any fees are due regarding this amendment. If any fees are required, however, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1696. The Applicants encourage the Examiner to telephone the Applicants' attorney should any issues remain.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Dated: February 12, 2004
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